

## HIGH SEAS BATTLE PRACTICE

## STIRRING EXHIBITION MADE AT 13,000 YARDS

Nebraska Leads Its Division in Long Distance Shooting in Rough Weather Georgia's Shipshot Pulls Her Down Fine Range of All the Shots Fired.

U. S. S. VERMONT, Sept. 22.—Four MONROE, Sept. 23. The first squadron of the Atlantic fleet finished its first gun in battle practice yesterday, firing all the starboard batteries, from the 6 inch up. The second squadron was delayed in the work because the tow lines of the rafts parted several times. The first squadron failed to finish the port battery firing today for the same reason. The ranges are twenty miles apart.

The Vermont, second ship in the fourth squadron, took the row of four rafts in column from the Mississippi late yesterday afternoon and carried them over the grounds all night. Constant steaming at from three to five knots was necessary to prevent the rafts becoming entangled and piling up on the battleship.

At daybreak all was favorable. The sun rose clear and a light breeze crept up from the east. Later the wind shifted to the northeast and drove in a choppy sea. The wind increased to twenty-five miles an hour by nightfall, with a heavy sea running. By 9 o'clock the columns were formed, the fourth squadron representing the enemy, with the third squadron as defenders.

The Minnesota, with Rear Admiral J. B. Muddock's flag at the topmast, lead the fourth squadron, setting the pace for the Vermont as towing ship. The Vermont headed into the north. Six hundred yards astern bobbed the first raft, the other three astern at intervals of 250 yards. Six hundred yards behind them steamed the Mississippi. The Idaho brought up the rear 550 yards astern. Ten miles off the port quarter the third squadron peeped up through the haze. First came the smoke, then the hulls lifted out of the sea, and as they steamed ahead and slightly to starboard they picked up bows with their seventeen knots. The towing fleet made only eight knots and in an hour the attacking position was almost made.

At 10:00 yards the Minnesota signalled by wireless that she was clear. The Georgia's squadron, the third, stood by for firing, but that was delayed because a merchant steamer crept up over the Minnesota's port bow.

The steamer's course was horizontally opposite, but apparently those on board enjoyed the spectacle and she took her time to get clear of the range.

The Minnesota's column headed straight on and the Georgia dropped back only to dash up again when all was clear. Up went the red flag 13,000 yards away. It was the signal to fire. A puff of smoke came from the Georgia's forward 12 inch turret, with a clouded flash of fire. Out shot a streak and in eleven seconds a projectile from a 3 inch gun struck the bow of the target but in direct line for the center.

This shot was for range finding and each ship took its turn with one 12 inch gun. Then came a silence of guns, the ships still steaming heavily on. The bones in the teeth of the war dogs were now turned to iron that sawed the forecastle and the gun deck forward ports. On the Minnesota and her ships every place below deck from skipper's cabin to the galley was deserted. Only the men in the engine rooms were busy. The quarter deck of the Vermont and the forecastle of the Mississippi were clear to give free passage to any straying shell. Other ships were lined atop with officers and crews. In the distance the Vermont and the forecastle of the Mississippi were the umpires and observers to spot the shells as they struck canvas or iron.

Within five minutes after the ranging shots were fired the starboard side of all four attacking ships broke out aflame and for several seconds were enveloped in smoke. It was a beautiful sight. A sharp eye caught a dark streak. That streak would be a shell lance whistling and a white foaming volcano would send a hundred yards into the air, surrounded by a score of lesser geysers. Three seconds later the crackle came and in two seconds more the heavy roar and onward pummeling from the firing ships. Then came other geysers, on and on beyond the targets, the shells ricocheting five to ten miles only to greet a schooner peeping up over the eastern horizon out from Hampton Roads. The schooner turned tail and the firing continued.

With each full salvo sixteen 12 inch, twenty 8 inch and twenty-four 6 inch shells were dropped around the targets. Some shot and some over, but a grand total of 288 shots fired on the run. To each ship was assigned a target in the order of its position, the ships steaming 200 yards apart.

While the results have not been computed officially the Nebraska took the lead, with three holes in her screen and two in her hull. The total for the targets were 26 by 60 feet, representing the midships of a battleship. The firing lasted slightly over five minutes.

The Georgia made the poorest showing, no doubt due to the rough weather. The ships of this division—Georgia, Nebraska, Rhode Island and Virginia—have superimposed turrets, one forward and one aft, with two 12 inch guns at the base and two 8 inch at the top. They carry two 8 inch turrets, one on each side amidships.

It was in this forward 8 inch superimposed turret that a fatal accident occurred during calibration practice in Cape Cod Bay on July 19, 1907, when several men were killed, including Lieut. Goodrich. The Georgia has had two or three other minor mishaps, including collisions. These have elected her to the hoodoo class.

Lieut. M. M. Frucht is in charge of the 12 inch turret, in which today's accident occurred. The destroyed gun lost two shots and the sister weapon did not fire afterward, owing to the confusion caused by the accident, thus losing one shot. The 8 inch guns above finished their firing without hope of success.

Upon the conclusion of the run the usual difficulty was experienced in passing the tow line from the Vermont to the Rhode Island, which is tow for the fourth division firing. The hawser gave way and when the tow was made intact it was too late for the fourth division to try firing. This is the first thing in the programme for tomorrow.

Admiral Schroeder placed a censorship upon the Georgia accident and made a brief cipher wireless report to Washington. Unlike Admiral Evans, who commanded the battleship fleet for several years, Admiral Schroeder has been opposed to firing on Sunday, but he announced today that he would make an exception so as to finish as soon as possible. With favorable conditions the practice can be concluded on Sunday morning, immediately after which the entire fleet will proceed to Hampton Roads. The Georgia will then go to the Boston yard for a new gun. The delay, it is believed, will prevent the fleet gaining the ten days leave promised in New York.

Admiral Tully sent a signal to-night to Capt. McLean, commanding the Vermont, praising the officers and crew of this ship for the skillful manner in which they have handled the targets in tow.

## GUN BURNS ON THE GEORGIA.

Shells Blown Off a 12 Inch Rifle in Battleship's Forward Turret. No One Hurt.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23. A slight accident occurred today on board the battleship Georgia of the Atlantic fleet, while the ship was engaged in target practice on the South-east drill grounds off Cape Henry, Virginia. The muzzle blew off a 12 inch gun in the forward turret of the battleship on the first shot. The accident was reported to the Navy Department by Rear Admiral Saxon Schroeder, U. S. N., commander-in-chief of the fleet. No one was injured. The muzzle, Admiral Schroeder said, was blown off as far back as the front end of the jacket. The cause of the accident has not been determined. The gun has been in use for about ten years and ordnance officials here believe that it was weakened by long use.

A new gun of a more modern type will be shipped at once from the gun foundry of the Washington Navy Yard for installation on the Georgia in place of the damaged weapon. Work on the vessel will be rushed as rapidly as possible in order not to interfere with the foreign cruise, which will begin on November 1.

This is the second accident to the battleship Georgia within the last four years. In the summer of 1907, while engaged in target practice in Cape Cod Bay, a powder explosion in her after turret occurred killing ten men.

Admiral Schroeder added that target work has been continued, but that progress is slow on account of the rough sea.

## DENIES SON'S STATEMENT.

Husband of Late Mrs. Thurston Says Her Estate Grew at Point Loma.

THE SUN last night received the following despatch, signed by Clark Thurston and dated at Point Loma, Cal.:

In the issue of THE SUN of September 18, 1909, certain statements are made purporting to have emanated from George I. Patterson, the contestant of my mother's will, against Mrs. Catherine Timley of Point Loma, Cal., the residuary legatee. I quote from THE SUN:

"A month ago George I. Patterson and Attorney J. V. Cunningham of New Castle went to Los Angeles to investigate the estate and Mrs. Thurston's connection with the society. They discovered that there remained of the estate only \$10,000 over the amount killed to Mrs. Timley. No trace could be found of \$200,000, the difference between the value of the estate at the time of Mrs. Thurston's death and the amount she had when she went West."

This statement is absolutely without foundation. The truth is that the estate of my wife, formerly Mrs. Patterson, was substantially larger at the time of her death than when she first came to reside in California, and it will be so proved.

It is an interesting fact that the contestant, George I. Patterson, offered to compromise with Mrs. Timley, allowing her \$100,000. This we knew he never would have done if he had felt sure of his allegations. Mrs. Timley refused to compromise, and further, as the case develops in the courts, it can be proved that Mrs. Timley had no knowledge of the will being made in her favor.

Facts prove that it was made in the office of Mrs. Thurston's lawyer in San Diego, miles away from Point Loma. The will was made on May 31, 1910, and Mrs. Thurston died on July 21.

Mrs. Timley refuses to give any detailed statement preferring that the facts that she has in hand be brought out in the legal contest before the courts. She has, however, declared that the charges of conspiracy set forth in the objection on George Patterson are just as false as the allegations made by the contestant that his mother was insane.

## BROKE INTO JAIL.

But Once In Fennell Wanted to Get Out Again.

A man who said he was Joseph Fennell, an employee in the Harvard Club, came to the West Side court yesterday morning and said he wanted to be locked up. No one paid any attention to him, so he went to the jail connected with the court and managed to get in, no one knew how.

He found his way to the prisoners' pen, where he seated himself. Magistrate Barlow ordered him out when there was no charge made against him. Fennell stuck to the job and next appeared in the court room itself. He said he had just been paid off and thought a court room the best place for a man with money, itching in his pocket. He was so persistent that he was locked up when he finally got what he wanted.

When Fennell found that the city didn't furnish its guests with cigarettes, he wanted to get out as badly as he had wanted to get in, and started to break up the furniture in the pen. Then he went to sleep.

When he woke up he told Magistrate Barlow that he was sorry he had acted "like a fool" and the Magistrate discharged him.

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## ZIA YOUSSEF PASHA HERE

TURKISH AMBASSADOR COMES TO TOWN FOR A VISIT.

Hasn't Been in the Country Long Enough to Talk Much About It, but He's Sure He Likes Atlantic City Turkey Quite Now and Going Ahead Strong.

Zia Youssef Pasha, the new Turkish Ambassador, has been in this country now more than three months, but as he got to Washington when almost everybody was away from home, he has had little chance to be seen or heard there or to attend the teas and receptions, and in consequence has not attracted the attention that is usually bestowed upon a new diplomat of the highest rank in the capital.

The sight of the Star and Crescent of the Ottoman empire flying from one of the flagstaves at the Hotel Astor yesterday somewhat puzzled the folk that usually keep the pavement alive in Long Acre Square, and as one passed through the throng of thespians, thespianesses, vaudevilleans and neopians, who are accustomed to take the air before a late breakfast, one heard numerous variations of the inquiry:

"Prithree, wherefore flouts you bold banner?"

The mystery was explained at the desk of the Astor that the Turkish Ambassador was in residence at the hotel.

"He doesn't speak any English," said the clerk, "but a bunch of friends who do are up there calling on him; so I guess it's all right."

They have the Ambassador's name on the register as Zia Youssef Pasha, which a person who said he knew was about the same as writing Smith Joseph (General or Governor or whatever the exact English equivalent of Pasha is).

Zia being a family name in Turkey whose members are no more followers of the Mithrasian creed than the Smiths of this and other countries, and Youssef being a form of Joseph. Only over in some of those European countries that touch the Orient they have a habit of writing their names and titles backward.

It is said, also by one who professed to know that the Ambassador is not connected with that other Zia, who was a Bey, who held the job of inquisitor in chief and chief of the bare police force in the empire of the Ottoman Empire, and who was over here during the tenderloin two years ago.

Zia Youssef Pasha, though short of

stature, is a distinguished looking man with a pointed gray beard, who looks like and has the manners and the speech of a polished French diplomat. At first he seemed doubtful about being interviewed, but the other men, who live in New York, reassured him, after some questions of their own, and the Ambassador said the French equivalent of "fire away."

"I have not seen enough of this country to be able to express an opinion as to how I like it," he said. "You see, I arrived only at the end of May and then is a time when Washington is not at its best as a capital, so many people are away. During the last six weeks I have been taking a vacation, dividing the most of it between Manhattan Beach and Atlantic City. I enjoyed the latter place. It is quite different from a European watering place, but it is most amusing and interesting."

It is difficult to compare Washington with any of the capitals of Europe. It is an entirely different class. It is not complete like most of them. Then naturally it is absolutely different in its character from New York, lacking almost entirely the commercial feature. There are many magnificent residences there, but how it compares socially with other capitals in which I have been I am absolutely unable to express an opinion so far because society had left the city when I got there.

"But I can say that I have enjoyed my experiences in this country thus far. As for Turkey, everything there is now peaceful and quiet. The disturbances in Albania have been put down and the smaller troubles in Syria have been calmed. The new Government is strong and the country is prepared to go ahead. It is disposed to work for the development of the country and will undoubtedly work to that end."

"Yes, there have been a great many Americans as well as other foreigners over in Constantinople seeking concessions for various municipal and industrial works, but the trouble has been that there have been no really serious offers made. Most of the big American financiers seem so far to have been a little hesitant about investing in Turkey, but there is now really no reason why they should be."

As for commerce between Turkey and this country, I have not the data at hand which would warrant me in saying there had been an increase under the new regime, but it is the hope of the Government over there that there should be more active commerce between the two countries.

The ambassador said that he had come to New York on business and that he expected to go back to Washington shortly.

Justice Irving Lehman of the Supreme Court, who returned from Salt Lake City last night, said that the Turkish Ambassador was reported at Mount Sinai Hospital last night to be improving.

## ASSASSIN KILLS BANKER.

Body Propped Up in Huggy and Horse Headed Homeward.

MUSKIE, Ind., Sept. 23.—Between 7 and 8 o'clock last night Norman Black, a banker and wealthy citizen, got his horse and buggy at a livery stable and an hour later the horse returned with Black sitting upright in his buggy, the lines wrapped around the whipstock. Black was unconscious and blood was oozing out of a bullet wound in his head. He died two hours later at the hospital. Examination showed that the assassin had carefully propped the dying man up in the buggy and had probably turned the horse toward the livery barn where he was kept.

An autopsy revealed that a bullet had penetrated the brain. A slight clue was furnished this morning by Edward Ray, a railroad flagman, who said that at about 7:30 last night he heard three shots in quick succession about two squares from the crossing where he is stationed. A few seconds later he heard two more reports from the same spot.

Witnesses have also been found who saw the rig containing Black's unconscious body near Mulberry and Second streets, in the southern part of the city, last night about the time the shooting must have taken place.

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## The Sunday Sun

Rules for a person going to Europe and desiring to be transiently blest: In England tip the policeman. In Berlin tip the street car conductors. At restaurants tip the head-waiter before the benediction. Watch the native at the next table and tip twice as much as he does. Speak English unless you know the language superlatively well, in which case you should speak it with the utmost rapidity. The price of a thing is determined by Parliamentary debate on the Continent. A capacity for emotional acting is necessary to secure the prices marked in Baedeker. These hints with others as fruitful are contained in an article

## Of Talk, Tips and Prices

A commercial use bids fair to be discovered for the domestic rubber plant. We all know how readily eldest daughters mend an auto puncture with a bit of chewing gum. Hairpins will keep the rear wheels from skidding. But the rubber plant, the ornament of the house, the family arboretum, has been like a beautiful vase, too nice to use. Now they are cultivating a rubber tree up near Boston, and if it becomes well cultured there is a hope that

## Maybe We'll Raise Rubber

and then some one will write a stirring poem: "Chauffeur, Spare That Rubber Plant," and conservation will make headway in impregnable Bay Ridge.

What we call the Black Hand is known in Southern Italy as the Family of Fire. Its workings are described. Our antique factories are running full blast, which must be due to an increasing love of art for art's sake. It would be nice to say that the Kaiser's grandsons at play are like any sturdy American lads, &c., but they aren't. A critical account of the first performance of Mahler's Eighth Symphony comes from Munich. Just what one man did when bitten by a rattlesnake derives its value from the fact that he lives to tell it. An account of the import of the consecration of St. Patrick's Cathedral will be found. Did you know that tying ostrich feathers is a paying form of skilled labor? It's another of the occupations and preoccupations quite out of the ordinary appearing in

## To-morrow's Sunday Sun

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